

FGDC Marine Boundary Working Group November 28, 2007 Meeting Minutes

In Attendance

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Email</u>
Michael Young	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Michael.Young@fws.gov
Steve Kopach	Minerals Management Service	Stephen.Kopach@mms.gov
Cindy Fowler	NOAA Coastal Services Center	Cindy.Fowler@noaa.gov
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Donald Campbell	Federal Communications Commission	Donald.Campbell@fcc.gov
Brian Van Pay	U.S. Department of State	vanpaybj@state.gov
Frances Mann	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Frances.Mann@fws.gov
Gerald Hovis	NOAA CO-OPS	Gerald.Hovis@noaa.gov
Mike Radcliffe	U.S. Census Bureau	Michael.R.Radcliffe@census.gov
Trent Palmer	National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency	Trent.C.Palmer@nga.mil
Jim Fulmer	Minerals Management Service	James.Fulmer@mms.gov
Paul Cooper	Caris USA	Paul.Cooper@caris.com
Doug Vandegraft	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Doug.Vandegraft@fws.gov
Henry Norris	Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission	Henry.Norris@myfwc.com
Josh Murphy	NOAA Coastal Services Center	Joshua.Murphy@noaa.gov
Martin Kodis	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Martin.Kodis@fws.gov
Meredith Westington	NOAA Office of Coast Survey	Meredith.Westington@noaa.gov
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Sarah Chandler	National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency	Sarah.A.Chandler@nga.mil

Notes

- Minutes from previous meeting have not been posted to the MBWG Web site. NOAA CSC will post with these minutes.
- Doug Vandegraft (USFWS) gave a presentation on “Determining the Marine Component of Coastal National Wildlife Refuges”
 - There are currently 169 “Marine Refuges” – these are defined as areas that contain submerged lands or that intersect tidally influenced areas
 - In order to define these submerged or tidally influenced areas, Doug used data from the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) – available through the “Wetlands Mapper” online mapping application
 - Next, the NWI data was clipped to the NWR boundaries. Those wetlands that were classified as estuarine were selected and quantified.
 - In order to perform some ground truthing on the data, the refuge boundaries and NWI data were overlaid on aerial photography in Google Earth. Eight

additional “Marine refuges” were identified due to their inclusion or intersection with estuarine wetland features, thus bringing the total to 177.

- A question was raised regarding whether or not the NWR boundaries have been surveyed. Many have not been surveyed, but rather were digitized from USGS 1:24000 DRGs.
 - Electronic versions of the NWR boundaries are available on the Web: parcel boundaries depicting USFWS ownership within the NWR are in development and will be available in Summer '08.
 - A question was raised regarding why the NWR marine boundary components were not charted on NOAA charts. There are ongoing disputes between NOAA and USFWS regarding offshore jurisdiction and as a result, the boundaries are not included on NOAA charts.
 - However, Florida has been working with Garmin to include Manatee Speed Zones as an overlay on their electronic charting products. Once this has been tested, they are looking to work with other vendors with the ultimate goal of making this layer available as a Web service.
 - In addition, the new S100 charting standard is in development and will include marine overlays that are not included in the official chart.
- Martin Kodis (USFWS) gave a presentation on the “Coastal Barrier Resources System”
 - There are two types of CBRS areas: *system units* (no federal \$\$ for road construction, no federally subsidized insurance, etc) and *otherwise protected areas*
 - There are no CBRS areas on the West Coast or Alaska
 - USFWS is charged with working with FEMA to determine whether or not a property is within a CBRS area
 - CBRA zones are supposed to be reviewed and revised every five years, however, USFWS does not have the \$\$ to do so. Currently, all boundaries follow existing/past natural or man-made features
 - Each CBRA map has an associated non-standard administrative document that may or may not provide a context for the mapped boundaries.
 - Issues arise due to the fact that the boundaries are hand drawn and the line width corresponds to 100 ft on the ground.
 - Congress has authorized a digital CBRA mapping pilot project. USFWS is also in the process of digitizing all boundaries, however, they are not revised during the digitization process
 - For more information, visit:
http://www.fws.gov/habitatconservation/coastal_barrier.htm

- Agency Updates:
 - **FGDC:** Nothing to report
 - **Maritime Boundaries:** NOAA OCS has been creating digital maritime limits since 2003. They have recently received approvals for the completed Alaska baseline and have completed the associated 3NM, Territorial Sea, and EEZ boundaries for the state – these have been sent to the Marine Charting Division. They have also gotten approvals for working in several of the isolated U.S. Pacific Island territories and possessions – updates for these will be available in 6 months. In addition, they are working on getting the new boundaries in NOAA's ENC product, however, they need to work on river and bay closing lines in the Atlantic and Gulf coasts first. Once all new baselines and associated boundaries are completed, the process will start over.
 - **Baseline:** The last Federal Register notice for the Baseline was in 1995. All new coordinates in the next Federal Register notice will be referenced to WGS84 for consistency. In addition, the new EEZ limits will be calculated and compared to the previous EEZ. They are exploring coordinate precision – how many decimal places are needed for accuracy. It has been a couple of months since the last meeting – the next meeting will be in January.
 - **IWG-OCM:** The first Interagency Working Group on Ocean and Coastal Mapping (IWG-OCM) technical workshop was held at NOAA CSC during Sept. 11-13. There, the group reached consensus on using GOS as the tool to build the OCM inventory. A second inventory working group meeting was convened in October to meet with GOS. The next meeting will be in February 25 in St. Petersburg, FL. The goal of this meeting will be to get other agencies and organizations involved in the OCM effort. The State of Florida is compiling a similar inventory at the state level. Harry Norris suggested that the IWG-OCM technical group take a look at the Priority Habitat Information System (PHINS) as an alternative to GOS, as it does a great job with cataloging non-spatial data. For more information, visit: <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/iwg>
 - **FCC:** Don stated that FCC had recently held a meeting involving Federal stakeholders involved in the Homeland Infrastructure Foundation-Level Data (HiFLD) project. The goal of this project is to compile and make available an inventory of critical infrastructure and base mapping data sets for use by the Federal Government for Homeland Defense / Homeland Security purposes. An associated inventory document was handed out and there was some discussion on the selection of data sources – many were private companies as opposed to the Federal Agency of Responsibility (AOR). For more information, visit <http://www.hifldwg.org/>
 - **NGA:** A new earth gravitational model is being created to support vertical calculations referenced to WGS84. In addition, NGA is working to get international marine boundary information into the State Department's Boundaries and Sovereignty Encyclopedia (BASE) OSIS intranet website: <http://base.us-state.osis.gov/>.

- **NOAA NMFS:** Nothing to report.
- **Census:** The Census Bureau is very interested in attending future meetings of the workgroup as they are realizing that the marine boundaries that they develop are not very accurate, however, their data is very widely used. They are interested in presenting at the next meeting
- **NOAA CO-OPS:** All local tidal datums have been updated to the 8301 epoch. In addition, several tide gauges in the GOMEX and Alaska have been updated to account for observed changes in local sea levels (defined as > 3 cm change over 5 years).
- Jim Fulmer (MMS) and Josh Murphy (NOAA) gave a presentation on the Multipurpose Marine Cadastre
 - The goal of the MMC project is to develop a single, authoritative source for federal marine cadastral information. The supporting objectives are that the data should be Web-accessible, in a standardized format, and managed by the agency of responsibility
 - Version 1 of the MMC data viewer is expected to be completed in April, 2007.
 - A prototype of the Web-based mapping application is available here (<http://csc-s-maps-q.csc.noaa.gov/MMC>) NOTE: This site is not to be distributed publically
 - 90% of the core datasets have been acquired from the agencies of responsibility.
 - The MMC working group is currently working on guidance for organizations who wish to participate and include their data in the MMC system.
 - Some benefits for contributing data to the MMC: 1) It provides an easy way to make spatial data publically available, 2) the core + supporting attribution facilitates data management within organizations and 3) Data included in the MMC will be linked to GOS.
 - We will be looking for a review of the alpha version of the mapping application in January/February
- Harry Norris (Florida FWC) gave a presentation on GAME (Geospatial Assessment of Marine Ecosystems)
 - The GAME project is part of a larger initiative by the Florida Oceans and Coastal Research Council to map data gaps
 - The purpose of GAME is to provide an inventory of spatial data in Florida waters
 - The system is integrated with the MerMAID metadata application and works with the GoMRC (Gulf of Mexico Regional Collaborative)

- Phase I of the project involves the creation of a data inventory; Phase II involves the creation of spatial footprints and assess gaps; Phase III involves the creation of a publically-available mapping application
- For more information on GAME, visit:
http://research.myfwc.com/features/category_main.asp?id=2360

Action Items

- NOAA CSC will post minutes from the last meeting, in addition to the minutes and presentations from this meeting, to the MBWG Web site (**Josh**)
- Obtain the BASE URL and access instructions and distribute to the working group (**Josh with Brian Van Pay**) – <http://base.us-state.osis.gov>

Potential Topics for Next Meeting

- Follow up with Census and have them present
- Get Mike Lee (USGS on detail to DHS) to present at the next meeting re: HIFLD